

For Immediate Release

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***Judge Jon Tigar Elected as
Member of the American Law Institute***

Contact: James Brighton, Bureau Chief, Planning, Research and Court Services,
Superior Court of California, County of Alameda at (510) 272-5093

The Superior Court of California, County of Alameda is pleased to announce the election of Judge Jon Tigar to the American Law Institute (ALI). Members of the ALI are elected based on professional achievement and demonstrated interest in the improvement of the law. The ALI is dedicated to the advancement of law and works closely with the American Bar Association and federal and state courts to achieve this goal.

In the words of Presiding Judge Harry Sheppard, "This is a significant honor and achievement." ALI membership includes noted jurists, lawyers, and law professors from across the country. Elected membership is currently limited to 3,000 including some members in foreign countries. The Chief Justice and associate justices of the United States Supreme Court, chief judges of each U.S. Court of Appeals, and chief justices of the highest state courts are ex officio members, as are deans of law schools that are members of the Association of American Law Schools.

The ALI was established in 1923 "to promote the clarification and simplification of the law and its better adaptation to social needs, to secure the better administration of justice, and to encourage and carry on scholarly and scientific work." The influence of the Institute's work is widespread, and many ALI publications have been accorded an authority exceeding that of any other legal treatise, evidenced by over 130,000 published court decisions citing the Restatements of the Law, and more than 37,000 judicial opinions citing the Uniform Commercial Code.

Judge Tigar sits in Department 14 as the family law judge for north Alameda County. He is active in a number of community and legal organizations, including Berkeley Biotechnology Education, Inc., of which he is a member of the board of directors. Before his elevation to the bench in January 2002, Judge Tigar was a partner in the law firm of Kecker & Van Nest, where he specialized in complex commercial litigation. While there, he was also co-chair of the firm's Pro Bono Committee, and in 2001, he received the Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services from the State Bar of California.